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Fall 2020



The Call of the Wild

A Wildlife Forever Member Newsletter



Into the Wild

Dear Members:

As our nation continues to struggle with the implications of the Corona virus, I hope you can find peace in the beauty of nature that surrounds the fall season. Migrations of waterfowl, caribou, butterflies, and songbirds are in full motion and many family traditions are underway. From hunting and fishing to weekend getaways looking at fall colors, this time of year is all about being outdoors in nature.

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I am grateful for you, our dedicated members, who continue to financially support the mission of Wildlife Forever and our vision of programs that bring us together in conservation.

New 2021 Wildlife Forever Calendar



Full of amazing images of fish and wildlife, the Wildlife Forever Calendar is a daily reminder of the power of nature.

If you enjoy the calendar as much as we do, please consider

Thank you for your continued support.

Peace to you and yours.

Pat Conzemius
President and CEO

Fish Art™ Contest



Wildlife Forever and *Title Sponsors* Bass Pro Shops and the Johnny Morris Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium, is proud to announce that the 2021 Fish Art Contest is officially open and accepting entries. This free international art and writing competition is a perfect way to inspire learners in kindergarten through 12th grade to discover the outdoors.

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Wildlife Forever is proud to announce a new strategic Partnership with the National Fish Habitat Partnership, based in Washington DC.

The National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) is a science-based initiative to protect, restore, and maintain America's aquatic ecosystems. In honor of this new alliance, the Fish Art Contest has created the **Fish Habitat Writing Award** to highlight the importance of protecting, preserving, and restoring

making a gift today. You can make a donation using the form included with the calendar or [visit our store.](#)



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On the Ground
Restoration

Crews in Ottertail
County, MN are
restoring natural prairie
areas in Backstrom

aquatic habitat.

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The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has joined as the host of the Florida Fish Art Contest. “We are excited to host the Florida Fish Art Contest and look forward to building conservation connections in our future generations,” said Eric Sutton, Director of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. “This is the newest program we are sponsoring to further our goal to increase participation in freshwater and saltwater fishing.”

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Clean Drain Dry Initiative™

This summer, in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and many Minnesota Counties, the Clean Drain Dry Initiative created a new public service announcement focused on kayaks, canoes and paddleboards.



This [PSA](#) and other Clean Drain Dry messaging was broadcast throughout the summer during the Kare11 *Cabin Cast*, a weather segment focused on Minnesota's most popular lakes areas. The PSA and other Clean Drain Dry Messaging made more than **14 million impressions**, spreading the word about the importance of invasive species prevention.

As temperatures drop and the leaves begin to change,

Waterfowl Production Area (WPA).



Traditionally, this area would have had a natural fire event every 3-5 years. Because of fire suppression, trees have begun sprouting that need to be mechanically removed to reinvigorate the land. This prairie restoration project will provide improved habitat for waterfowl, upland birds and other wildlife in the area.

Green Lights Recycling



Wildlife Forever has partnered with Green Lights Recycling to help promote responsible recycling practices. Ever wondered what you should do with items such as spent light bulbs, batteries, and electronic scrap? Through **Green Lights Recycling** [Recycle &](#)

hunters are preparing for the 2020 season. Invasive species, however, threaten the health of our lands and waters and degrade habitat. Hunters play a critical role in protecting these important areas.

Once established, invasive species can be expensive to control and nearly impossible to eliminate.

The Clean Drain Dry steps greatly reduce the risk of causing a new invasive species infestation.

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Wildlife Forever just launched a new tool in the fight against invasive species. The **Invasive Species Resource Center** is a free digital library offering invasive species information organized into three categories: Management, Research, and Outreach & Education.

Dane Huinker, Conservation Programs Manager of Wildlife Forever remarked “Invasive species know no boundaries, which is why we need to work together in order to tackle the issue. The Invasive Species Resource Center will allow organizations from around the world to collaborate and share information to stop the spread of invasive species.”

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Prairie City USA®

Wildlife Forever Staff joined Fergus Falls Mayor Ben Schierer and John DeVries of the United Prairie Foundation on a tour of the completed restoration work. The Pebble Lake Golf Course, owned by the city of Fergus Falls, has completed about 12% of the restoration sites and is already providing needed habitat for migrating monarch butterflies.

Restore program, you can purchase prepaid mail-back containers to responsibly recycle materials from your home or business.

Our Partners



The Brella Project



From Left to Right: John Devries - Ben Schierer - Pat Conzemius

Prairie City USA is a unique program based on adoption by the city, converting public green spaces into beautiful prairie habitat. Prairie City USA provides many benefits to the city: cost savings by reducing the need for landscape management, ecological benefits including storm water retention, native habitat to attract pollinators, birds and other wildlife.

[Learn more about this ground-breaking program.](#)

Wildlife Forever is working with Brella on their launch of high performance, non-restrictive waterproof outerwear. Brella is currently offering a pre-sale special, for every purchase made using the fundraising code **WILDLIFE**, you receive **25-35% off** and we receive a **\$5 donation** at no cost to you.

www.brellabrella.com



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